72. Needs of Kalkulam.

MR. K. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Member, Kalkulam taluk, Group I*) urged for the opening of a road from Mekkamandapam to meet the main road about the 29th mile. The people of the locality were prepared to give the required lands free of cost.

More irrigational facilities should be provided for the cultivation of the Perunchilampu Elai. The area concerned consisted of about 1000 kottas of paddy fields. The only source of water supply to these fields was the Nacharakottayar. No attention was now being paid to the maintenance of this channel. An allotment should be made every year for the maintenance of the channel.

The old Magistrate's court at Thiruvattar should be restored. There were, till 1097, 5 Taluk Magistrates, 2 Stationary Second Class Magistrates, one District Magistrate, and one First Class Magistrate in the Padmanabhapuram Division. But now there were only three Stationary Second Class Magistrates and one Additional District Magistrate. The average number of cases filed in the Kuzhithura Stationary Magistrate's court from Thiruvattar had gone down much and would in course of time dwindle further. This was due not because there was any fall in crimes at Thiruvattar but because parties could not afford to bear all the troubles of distant journeys. In fact there was a rise in the offences committed at Thiruvattar. The Stationary Magistrate's court at Kuzhithura had also a heavy file and considerable delay was being caused in the disposal of cases. A new Magistrate's court should therefore be opened at Thiruvattar.

DEWAN'S REPLY: MR. Padmanabha Pillai, in regard to the road from the Mekamandapam junction to the Thiruvattar-Azhakiamandapam road, upon your assurance that the people will give necessary lands free, I shall request the Chief Engineer to investigate it.

MEMBER: Thank you, Sir.

DEWAN: It is a fact, as you say, that owing to natural causes the seepage of Perunchilampu Elai is gradually getting less and less. How that is to be remedied, it will not be possible to say. What can be substituted is a system of tanks to store rain water and that is a large question which requires careful examination.

As regards the re-establishment of the Magistrate's court at Thiruvattar, I gather that the people of Thiruvattar are getting less and less litigious and you are afraid that at the present rate of retrogression, there will be no case filed in ten years' time. However, I shall ask the Dewan Peishkar and the District Magistrate to enquire into the matter.

MEMBER: Thank you, Sir.

73. Needs of the Kalkulam taluk.

MR. R. S. SUBRAHMONYA PILLAI (*Member, Kalkulam taluk, Group II*) spoke of the hardships caused to the ryots of Edanad in the matter of supply of water from the Kodayar dam. There was no equitable distribution of water from the dam. The poor ryots always got the worse of it in the scramble for water. The block boards and the central board created by Government were of no avail. They should therefore be either ended or mended. The new rules awaited from the Sub-Committee appointed by the Central Irrigation Board might perhaps remedy the present evils.

With irrigation was linked up the question of grazing cattle. It was necessary that at least an extent of 3000 acres of land at the foot of the Velimalai hills should be reserved as grazing grounds for cattle.

A dispensary should be opened at Alur. The people of the place had to go for medical aid to Nagercoil or Tuckalai, places 10 miles distant. Though there was a mission hospital at Neyyoor, 7 miles distant, the advantages of the same could be enjoyed only by monied men. A dispensary should therefore be opened at Alur.

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A veterinary hospital should be established at Eraniel. The nearest veterinary hospitals now were at Kuzhithura 12 miles away and at Nagercoil equally distant. The difficulties experienced by the ryots in taking their cattle to these places could well be imagined.

The timings of the Anchal mail service should be changed. When the runner's system was in vogue a letter despatched from Trivandrum in the evening reached Padmanabhapuram, Nagercoil, the Cape and Bhootapandy the next morning. But with the introduction of the Anchal motor system the letter reached Padmanabhapuram at 12 A. M. the next day, Nagercoil at 4 P. M., and the Cape and other places only on the third day. On the other hand, a letter despatched from Trivandrum reached distant Kottayam at 8 A. M. the next day. The letters despatched to South Travancore would reach there earlier if the timings of the Anchal motor service from Trivandrum were changed from 8 A. M. to 9 P. M. The advantage of this arrangement was that letters from Trivandrum could reach Padmanabhapuram at 11 P. M. the same day, Nagercoil at 12 P. M. and the Cape and other places at 4 A. M. the next day so that letters could be delivered at all these places early in the morning on the next day.

A police out-post was necessary at Alur. There was now a police out-post at Parasseri. This out-post was no longer necessary at the place. There were no habitations within a mile of the out-post. There were also night beats both from the Thuckalai and the Edalakudi police stations which met at Chunkankadai near Parasseri. The out-post at Parasseri could therefore be shifted to Alur. If this was not possible a new out-post might be opened at Alur.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Subrahmanya Pillai, in the matter of hardships caused to the ryots from the Kodayar reservoir, I understand that the hardship is only felt when the monsoons fail. When that happens, the P. W. D. has to take the greatest possible care of whatever water is available so as to ensure that it may be fairly distributed among the agriculturists. Of course one reason which gives cause for your complaint is the disposition on the part of the ryots of the upper fields to monopolise water to the detriment of the ryots of the lower fields. That is a matter for the Block Boards to try and arrange. The Block Boards rules are as you know going to be revised shortly as the result of a report received from the Central Board. I will see what can be done then.

As regards grazing grounds in the Velimala hills, you know exactly what my views are, and I need not repeat them. In other parts of the world, more especially in Europe, every cultivator sets apart a portion of his field for growing fodder for his cattle. In Italy it is $\frac{1}{3}$ of his holding and that is grown in rotation with rice and other crops. It is only then you realise how important cattle rearing is to the agriculturist. The two must go hand in hand. If cattle are neglected, you cannot expect them to develop into fine animals which are required for the purpose of agriculture. So, I repeat that every cultivator should set aside a portion of his land for growing good fodder.

The question of dispensaries and hospitals will be shortly taken up for systematisation and I have no doubt that when that question comes up the question of opening a dispensary at Alur will also be taken up.

The question of a veterinary hospital at Eraniel came up once before. But it was dropped. I shall have it re-examined.

I shall put your proposals in regard to the Anchal mail service before the Anchal Superintendent and see how far it is possible to meet your wishes in the matter.

You want a police out-post at Alur. The question of new out-posts must stand over. If what you propose is only a transfer, I shall have it considered by the Commissioner of Police.

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